

DISTRICT SEVEN SAFETY MEETING

March 16, 2009
Albright United Methodist Church
5555 W. Capitol Drive
6:30PM

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Captain Patrick Mitchell called the meeting to order.
- II. **CRIME REVIEW:** Captain Mitchell informed the assembly that they would like to show information on a screen but they are limited at meeting sites that do not have internet access that would allow up-to-the-minute information. There was some discussion about schools, libraries, etc. These ideas will be explored for future meetings.

Captain Mitchell reported that crime rates are down citywide. Within District Seven crime is down 22% compared to this time last year.

BURGLARY: Last month there was a rash of burglaries within the area between 51st and 60th; Keefe to Capitol. There have been no arrests but the burglaries have stopped. The police made a strong presence in the area. Typically, throughout District Seven there were about 25 burglaries per week (75 in three weeks). The last three weeks show less than 40. Detective Anne Portnoy from the Criminal Investigation Bureau has assisted all of the districts in tracking burglary incidents.

ROBBERY: The pattern on main thoroughfares, especially on Capitol Drive and N. 76th Street has decreased. For the past few weeks, District Seven has deployed officers into the area of 27th to Sherman and West Center to West Keefe in an effort to prevent incidents of violent crime. During a recent 10 day period, this area only experienced one violent crime, which was an armed robbery that occurred at 1:00pm on North 28th Street.

AUTO THEFT: When comparing 2007 to 2008, District Seven Auto Thefts have decreased by approximately 40%.

CRUISING: Cruising has started up and the MPD responds immediately. Cruisers are particularly aggravating to residents who are subjected to their blasting stereos, hanging out of moving cars and even public urinating in neighborhoods in the middle of the night. The police will tow any car they can legally tow; they will arrest everyone they can legally arrest. For example, the police can tow cars with oversized tires because they are not safe to drive. Often, cruising begins around 27th and Capitol Drive and then moves over to Mid-Town Shopping area where more police are waiting for them. Over the past weekend the police broke the cruising down in five minutes. Cruisers are getting the message.

PROBLEMATIC TAVERNS: All taverns are subject to random visits by the police. The tavern at 40th and Fond Du Lac (All Stars) was the site of two shootings and 2 robberies. The owner shut the bar down voluntarily until May. Employees of the

tavern have been arrested for criminal offenses related to the above incidents and their cases are working their way through the Milwaukee County Court System. The other business owner of the Jamaican Inn did not contest the charges and surrendered his license. An employee went outside with a gun to settle a problem with a customer.

TRUANTS: As the weather get nicer, you will see more kids out hanging out, etc. Call the non-emergency number to report such situations.

SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOR: Police encourage residents to call in suspicious behavior. These calls frequently result in arrests or citations.

III. RECOMMENDED SPRING NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECTS:

A. Walk-through with City Officials

The intent of the Walk-through is to take note of issues in the neighborhood contributing to *crime, fear and disorder (Nuisance/vacant/boarded-up properties, patterns of disorderly behavior)* and get advice or updates from the proper agency.

A walk-through involves representatives from Milwaukee Police Dept., Alderman's office, Sanitation, Health Dept, Neighborhood Services and Probation/Parole. You can schedule a Walk-Through with your Alderman's office or Ofc. Shellee Lubus at (935-7878.)

B. Neighborhood Clean ups with Probation/Parole Offenders

Agents Dawn Berger and Mark Watkins reported on a neighborhood cleanup in the 2700 block of N. 34th Street. 25 individuals ---probation/parole offenders who needed to perform community service, some neighbors and other volunteers spent 2.5 hours cleaning litter and garbage.

The Offenders program is available to other neighborhoods who need assistance. You can call Dawn Berger at 229-1024/Mark Watkins-750-2871 to make arrangements. You can contact any of the Probation/parole agents at 935-7272.

C. Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful

A list of websites were available highlighting programs:

- *Adopt a Tree*—Greening Milwaukee is offering to provide a large shade tree without cost to property owners in the city. Website is www.greeningmilwaukee.org Click on the "Adopt a Tree" link. **You can also call 273-8733**
- *Neighborhood Grant Money*—The city is offering up to \$2000 to neighborhoods that come up with projects that enhance curb appeal and unite the residents. For more information, go to www.mkedcd/housing/nidc **You can also call 286-5608**
- *Foreclosures*—If you are interested in foreclosed properties in your neighborhood, go to the website--[www. Mkedcd/foreclosures](http://www.Mkedcd/foreclosures)

IV. “LIGHTS ON FOR SAFETY” CAMPAIGN UPDATE: Steve O’Connell

Steve suggested going through your block at night to see how many lights may be needed to light up your block by 80%. Some lights are visible but are not working due to missing/old bulbs or fixtures that are damaged.

The “Lights on for Safety” campaign is offering a great opportunity for your blocks. The Electricians’ Union and MATC electrical apprenticeship program are offering to install lights through your Block Watch at no cost to the home owner. The owner is responsible to purchasing their own light. Lights can be purchased at a discount from Lowe’s or Meineke Ace Hardware with a coupon from your Block Captain. Block Captains can pick up flyers for your block at the Sherman Perk Coffee House on 49th and Roosevelt or at District Seven station.

- V. OTHER BUSINESS:** The BP gas station (Big Eyesore) at 5100 W. Burleigh has finally been razed after two years. The people in the neighborhood along with Alderman Michael Murphy have been relentless in getting this removed. Thank you to all who have been involved with phone calls, petitions, going to court, etc.

VI. ADJOURN MEETING

NEXT SAFETY MEETING:

April 20, 2009
Capitol West Academy
3939 N. 88th Street
6:30PM

ANNOUNCEMENT

District Seven has a new captain. Let’s give him a warm welcome at the April Safety Meeting. His name is Captain William Jessup.

ADDENDUM

The following was not reported at the Safety Meeting but it was on the Police Department website.

On March 13, a 29 yr.old man was arrested during a traffic stop. Officers saw drugs sticking out of the passenger’s pocket. Officers Daniel Robinson and Kieran Sawyer stopped the car about 1:30 PM in the 4600 block of N. Hopkins Avenue. The passenger was arrested after Ofc. Sawyer saw marijuana sticking out of this pocket. Ofc. Sawyer also found a 9mm handgun in his waistband and cocaine. He is a previously convicted felon. He will be referred to the Milwaukee County District Attorney’s Office for possible charges.